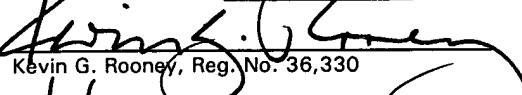




PATENT

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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,
VA 22313-1450 on November 3, 2003


Kevin G. Rooney, Reg. No. 36,330

11/3/03

Date

Applicants: Lawrence M. Lubbers et al.
Serial No.: 10/620,932
Filed: July 16, 2003
Examiner: Unknown
Group Art Unit: 3732
Confirmation No.: 8887
For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR SECURING TENDONS
OR LIGAMENTS TO BONE
Atty. Docket No.: TTL-04B

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

November 3, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of candor and good faith imposed by 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and means of complying therewith according to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are called to the attention of the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited references have already been supplied

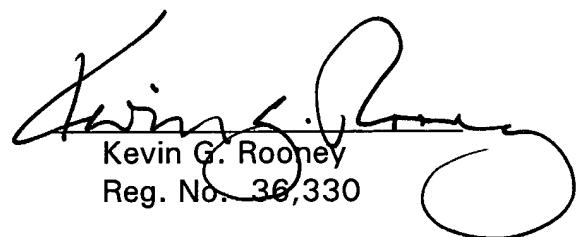
in connection with U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/969,947 (now pending). The present application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/969,947 which is a continuation-in-part of PCT Serial No. PCT/US99/24098 (expired) which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 08/928,866 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,083,244) and claims the benefit thereof under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) copies of the cited references need not be provided herewith. If additional copies of these references are desired, please contact the undersigned and they will be forwarded immediately.

The Examiner is urged to consider all of the cited documents and to make an independent evaluation of the teachings and materiality of each.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due in connection with this submission. However, if such petition is due or any fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to deposit account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.



Kevin G. Rooney
Reg. No. 36,330

2700 Carew Tower
441 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
(513) 241-2324
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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449

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U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

16 CFR 1.86(b)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
TTL-04BSERIAL NO.
10/620,932INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT
Lawrence M. Lubbers et
al.FILING DATE
July 16, 2003GROUP
3732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A.A	R	e	3	6	2	8	9	8/1999	Le et al.	606	232	
	A.B	2	0	7	5	5	0	8	3/1937	Davidson			
	A.C	2	4	2	1	1	9	3	5/1947	Gardner	128	335	
	A.D	2	4	7	2	0	0	9	5/1949	Gardner	128	335	
	A.E	2	4	8	9	8	7	0	11/1949	Dzus	606	73	
	A.F	2	7	6	0	4	8	8	8/1956	Pierce			
	A.G	3	1	2	3	0	7	7	3/1964	Alcamo	606	228	
	A.H	3	4	8	9	1	4	3	1/1970	Halloran			
	A.I	3	6	6	4	3	4	5	5/1972	Dabbs			
	A.J	3	7	1	6	0	5	8	2/1973	Tanner, Jr.	128	337	
	A.K	4	4	3	0	9	9	8	2/1984	Harvey et al.	128	335	

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	A.L	3227984 A1	2/1984	DE			
	A.M	19840881	3/2000	DE			
	A.N	1810800	6/1970	DT			
	A.O	0535802	4/1993	EP			
	A.P	0092334	10/1983	EP			
	A.Q	0478949 A1	4/1992	EP			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

	A.R	L. Gordon et al., <u>Flexor Tendon Repair Using a Stainless Steel Internal Anchor</u> , Article, The Journal of Hand Surgery, Vol. 23B N. 1, February 1998
	A.S	L. Gordon et al., <u>Flexor Tendon Repair Using a Stainless Steel External Splint</u> , Article, Journal of Hand Surgery, Vol. 24B, No. 6, December 1999
	A.T	Dietmar H. Wittmann, <u>Prosthesis for Abdominal Surgery</u> , U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0029063A1, Published on March 7, 2002

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not in conformance. Draw line through citation only if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE							ATTY. DOCKET NO. TTL-04B	SERIAL NO. 10/620,932
O P E R A T I O N NOV 05 2003 157 CFR 1.98 TRADEMA		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT							APPLICANT Lawrence M. Lubbers et al.	
		(Use several sheets if necessary)							FILING DATE July 16, 2003	GROUP 3732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS												
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER					ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	B.A	4	5	4	9	5	4	5	10/1985	Levy	606	223
	B.B	4	5	8	5	4	5	8	4/1986	Kurland	623	13.17
	B.C	4	5	9	0	9	2	8	5/1986	Hunt et al.		
	B.D	4	5	9	2	3	4	6	6/1986	Jurgutis	128	92
	B.E	4	6	3	7	3	8	0	1/1987	Orejola	128	334
	B.F	4	6	4	3	1	7	8	2/1987	Nastari et al.		
	B.G	4	7	2	3	5	4	8	2/1988	Lalonde	128	335
	B.H	4	7	5	0	4	9	2	6/1988	Jacobs	606	230
	B.I	4	7	9	6	6	1	2	1/1989	Reese		
	B.J	4	8	3	2	0	2	6	5/1989	Jones		
	B.K	4	8	7	0	9	5	7	10/1989	Goble et al.	128	92

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	B.L	2164562	3/1986	GB			
	B.M	WO 97-07744	3/1997	PCT			
	B.N	WO 00/49983	8/2000	PCT			
	B.O						
	B.P						
	B.Q						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

	B.R	Daniel Jacobs, <u>Multi-Point Tension Distribution System Device and Method of Tissue Approximation Using that Device to Improve Wound Healing</u> , U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0173807A1, Published on 11/21/02
	B.S	
	B.T	

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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
TTL-04BSERIAL NO.
10/620,932INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(37 CFR 1.98(6))

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT
Lawrence M. Lubbers et
al.FILING DATE
July 16, 2003GROUP
3732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	C.A	4	8	7	3	9	7	6	10/1989	Schreiber	128	334	
	C.B	4	9	0	1	7	2	1	2/1990	Hakki	606	103	
	C.C	4	9	4	6	4	6	2	8/1990	Watanabe			
	C.D	4	9	5	5	9	1	0	9/1990	Bolesky	623	13.13	
	C.E	4	9	7	8	3	4	7	12/1990	Hizarov			
	C.F	4	9	7	9	9	5	6	12/1990	Silvestrini	623	13	
	C.G	4	9	8	8	3	5	1	1/1991	Paulos et al.	606	72	
	C.H	5	0	0	6	0	2	3	4/1991	Kaplan	411	17	
	C.I	5	0	4	1	1	2	9	8/1991	Hayhurst et al.	606	232	
	C.J	5	0	5	3	0	4	7	10/1991	Yoon	606	223	
	C.K	5	0	6	1	2	8	3	10/1991	Silvestrini	623	13	

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

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ATTY. DOCKET NO.
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Lawrence M. Lubbers et
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July 16, 2003GROUP
3732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	D.A	5	2	5	8	0	1	5	11/1993	Li et al.			
	D.B	5	2	6	9	2	9	0	12/1993	Barrett et al.	128	4	
	D.C	5	2	6	9	8	0	9	12/1993	Hayhurst et al.			
	D.D	5	3	0	6	2	9	0	4/1994	Martins et al.			
	D.E	5	3	0	9	9	2	7	5/1994	Welch	128	898	
	D.F	5	3	4	2	3	7	6	8/1994	Ruff			
	D.G	5	3	5	4	3	0	5	10/1994	Lewis et al.	606	152	
	D.H	5	3	8	0	3	3	4	1/1995	Torrie et al.	606	104	
	D.I	5	3	8	3	8	9	7	1/1995	Wholey	606	213	
	D.J	5	3	9	5	3	7	4	3/1995	Miller et al.			
	D.K	5	4	1	1	5	2	3	5/1995	Marlowe	606	232	

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

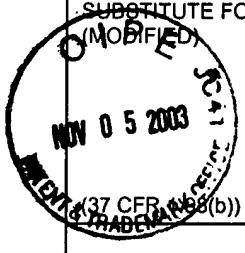
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE									ATTY. DOCKET NO. TTL-04B	SERIAL NO. 10/620,932
 NOV 05 2003		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT									APPLICANT Lawrence M. Lubbers et al.	
		(Use several sheets if necessary)									FILING DATE July 16, 2003	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS												

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	E.A	5	4	1	7	6	9	9	5/1995	Klein et al.		606	139	
	E.B	5	4	2	5	7	4	7	6/1995	Brotz		606	228	
	E.C	5	4	2	6	8	4	3	6/1995	Bartky		29	516	
	E.D	5	4	3	3	6	0	7	7/1995	Schmid et al.		433	173	
	E.E	5	4	6	4	4	2	4	11/1995	O'Donnell, Jr.		606	228	
	E.F	5	4	7	2	4	5	2	12/1995	Trott		606	232	
	E.G	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	3/1996	Feagin et al.				
	E.H	5	5	0	5	7	3	5	4/1996	Li		606	72	
	E.I	5	5	0	7	7	7	5	4/1996	Ger et al.		606	216	
	E.J	5	5	2	0	7	0	0	5/1996	Beyar et al.		606	139	
	E.K	5	5	2	0	6	9	1	5/1996	Branch				

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	E.L						
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 MODIFIED NOV 05 2003 CFR 1.906 TRADEMARK		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE								ATTY. DOCKET NO. TTL-04B		SERIAL NO. 10/620,932	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT Lawrence M. Lubbers et al.											
		FILING DATE July 16, 2003					GROUP 3732						

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	F.A	5	5	2	7	3	4	2	6/1996	Pietrzak et al.		606	232	
	F.B	5	5	3	1	7	6	1	7/1996	Yoon		606	223	
	F.C	5	5	3	1	2	3	2	7/1996	Hill		128	898	
	F.D	5	5	3	1	7	9	0	7/1996	Frechet et al.		623	15	
	F.E	5	5	5	6	4	2	8	9/1996	Shah		623	13	
	F.F	5	5	6	2	6	8	9	10/1996	Green et al.		606	151	
	F.G	5	5	8	2	6	1	6	12/1996	Bolduc et al.		606	143	
	F.H	5	5	8	4	8	5	9	12/1996	Brotz		606	228	
	F.I	5	5	9	3	4	2	5	1/1997	Bonutti et al.		606	232	
	F.J	5	6	0	1	5	5	7	2/1997	Hayhurst		606	72	
	F.K	5	6	4	3	2	8	9	7/1997	Sauer et al.		606	139	

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	F.L						
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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE								ATTY. DOCKET NO. TTL-04B		SERIAL NO. 10/620,932	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)										APPLICANT Lawrence M. Lubbers et al.			
										FILING DATE July 16, 2003		GROUP 3732	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	G.A	5 6 4 3 3 2 0							7/1997	Lower et al.		606	232	
	G.B	5 6 6 2 7 1 4							9/1997	Charvin et al.		623	15	
	G.C	5 6 6 9 9 1 7							9/1997	Sauer et al.		606	139	
	G.D	5 6 8 1 3 5 2							10/1997	Clancy, III et al.		606	232	
	G.E	5 6 9 0 6 3 2							11/1997	Schwartz et al.		606	73	
	G.F	5 7 0 7 3 9 4							1/1998	Miller et al.		606	232	
	G.G	5 7 0 7 3 9 5							1/1998	Li		606	232	
	G.H	5 7 2 0 7 6 5							2/1998	Thal				
	G.I	5 7 2 3 0 0 8							3/1998	Gordon		623	13	
	G.J	5 7 2 3 0 0 9							3/1998	Frechet et al.		623	15	
	G.K	5 7 2 8 1 3 6							3/1998	Thal		606	232	

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

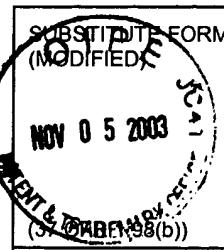
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	G.L						
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		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT							APPLICANT Lawrence M. Lubbers et al.			
		(Use several sheets if necessary)							FILING DATE July 16, 2003		GROUP 3732	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	H.A	5	7	2	8	1	3	5	3/1988	Bregan et al.		606	228	
	H.B	5	7	5	5	0	6	5	5/1998	Sorkin		52	223.13	
	H.C	5	7	8	2	8	4	4	7/1998	Yoon et al.		606	139	
	H.D	5	7	9	7	9	1	3	8/1998	Dambreville et al.		606	72	
	H.E	5	8	0	0	5	4	4	9/1998	Demopoulos et al.		623	13	
	H.F	5	8	1	0	8	5	1	9/1998	Yoon		606	148	
	H.G	5	8	2	4	0	0	8	10/1998	Bolduc et al.		606	43	
	H.H	5	8	9	1	1	6	8	4/1999	Thal		606	232	
	H.I	5	8	9	7	5	9	1	4/1999	Kobayashi		623	13.11	
	H.J	5	9	1	6	2	2	4	6/1999	Esplin		606	151	
	H.K	5	9	1	6	2	2	4	6/1999	Esplin		606	151	

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	H.L						
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	H.P						
	H.Q						

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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE								ATTY. DOCKET NO. TTL-04B	SERIAL NO. 10/620,932		
		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT								APPLICANT Lawrence M. Lubbers et al.			
(37 CFR 1.13(b))		(Use several sheets if necessary)								FILING DATE July 16, 2003	GROUP 3732		
		U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS											
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER						ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	I.A	5	9	5	1	5	9	0	9/1999	Goldfarb	606	232	
	I.B	5	9	5	4	7	4	7	9/1999	Clark	606	216	
	I.C	5	9	6	4	7	7	2	10/1999	Bolduc et al.	606	142	
	I.D	5	9	7	2	0	0	1	10/1999	Yoon	606	139	
	I.E	5	9	8	0	5	5	7	11/1999	Iserin et al.	606	220	
	I.F	6	0	7	4	4	0	9	6/2000	Goldfarb	606	232	
	I.G	6	0	8	3	2	4	4	7/2000	Lubbers et al.	606	232	
	I.H	6	1	0	2	9	4	7	8/2000	Gordon	623	13.11	
	I.I	6	1	0	6	5	5	6	8/2000	Demopoulos et al.	623	13.16	
	I.J	6	1	2	9	7	6	2	10/2000	Li	623	13.11	
	I.K	6	1	3	2	4	4	2	10/2000	Ferragamo et al.	606	151	
FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS													
		DOCUMENT NUMBER			PUBLICATION DATE			COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)	
	I.L												
	I.M												
	I.N												
	I.O												
	I.P												
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)													
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EXAMINER								DATE CONSIDERED					

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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 ① (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE							ATTY. DOCKET NO. TTL-04B	SERIAL NO. 10/620,932			
 NOV 05 2003		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT							APPLICANT Lawrence M. Lubbers et al.				
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EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER						ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	J.A	6	1	4	9	6	6	9	11/2000	Li	606	232	
	J.B	6	1	6	8	5	9	6	1/2001	Wellisz et al.	606	69	
	J.C	6	2	9	6	6	5	6	10/2001	Bolduc et al.	606	213	
	J.D	6	3	0	6	1	5	9	10/2001	Schwartz et al.	606	232	
	J.E	6	4	4	7	5	3	5	9/2002	Jacobs et al.	606	215	
	J.F	6	4	8	5	5	0	3	11/2002	Jacobs et al.	606	215	
	J.G												
	J.H												
	J.I												
	J.J												
	J.K												
FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS													
		DOCUMENT NUMBER			PUBLICATION DATE		COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE			CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)	
	J.L												
	J.M												
	J.N												
	J.O												
	J.P												
	J.Q												
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)													
	J.R												
	J.S												
	J.T												
EXAMINER							DATE CONSIDERED						
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